GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5135
ANSWERED ON:27.08.2001
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX
VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the annual percentage variation of Consumer Price Index for industrial workers and agricultural labour during the period 1990-91 and 2000-2001, separately;

(b) the annual percentage variation of wages of industrial workers and agricultural labourers for the same period, separately;

(c) whether any discrepancy in relation to wage increase and priceindexes of Industrial workers (IW) and Agricultural labour (AL) and minimum wages forunorganised workers exists; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA)

(a): The average annual increase in Consumer Price Index (CPI) for industrial workers between the period 1990-91 and 2000-01 has been 13.0% and that of agricultural workers 12.4%

(b) the average annual increase in the wages (at current prices) of industrial workers based on the statistics contained in the Annual Survey of Industries, works out to 10.8% between the period 1990-91 and 1998-99.

As per the Economic Survey 2000-01,the average annual increase in real wages (i.e. wages at current prices deflated by CPI for agricultural labour) for unskilled agricultural labour works out to 2.72% during the period 1992-93 through 1999-2000.

(c) & (d): The average annual increase in the minimum wages (at current prices) for unskilled agricultural labour in the central sphere works out to 65.34% and that for non-agricultural workes 17.66% between the period 1988 and 1998. The increase in the minimum wages is thus higher than the percentage increase in actual wages as well consumer price indxes both for industrial and agricultural workers.